

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CPR-01 SY-05 USSS-00 TRSE-00 CU-02

PRS-01 A-01 OPR-02 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /062 W

----- 036779

R 011115Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0165

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 3203

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: NO,OVIP,OTRA

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI PLANS PRIVATE VISIT TO US

1. FOREIGN MINISTER SECRETARY GENERAL GJELLUM INFORMED ME TODAY THAT PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI PLANS TO MAKE A PRIVATE VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES OCTOBER 11-18. PRIME MINISTER PLANS TO TRAVEL WITH MRS.BRATTELI AND POSSIBLY ONE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL FROM WASHINGTON. THE BRATTELIS PLAN ARRIVE CHICAGO OCTOBER 11 AND WILL PROCEED TO MADISON,WISCONSIN,THENCE TO FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA AND RETURN TO NEW YORK FOR DEPARTURE OCTOBER 18 SPENDING APPROXIMATELY TWO DAYS IN EACH PLACE. DURING TRIP BRATTELIS WILL VISIT RELATIVES AND HE WILL GIVE AT LEAST TWO SPEECHES ON THE THEME OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORWEGIAN EMIGRATION TO THE US.

2. GJELLUM EMPHASIZED THIS WILL BE PRIVATE VISIT AND THE PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY CONTACT WITH US OFFICIALS.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF DEPARTMENT WOULD COORDINATE WITH NORWEGIAN EMBASSY AND UN MISSION,HAVE SOMEONE MEET PRIME MINISTER AND EXTEND APPROPRIATE COURTESIES TO HIM IN NEW YORK. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH
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INQUIRE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY IF THEY PLAN INFORM CHICAGO

AUTHORITIES ABOUT ARRIVAL. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH BRATTELI TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH ANY TOP US OFFICIALS WHO MAY BE IN NEW YORK, OR WOULD PREFER TO KEEP HIS VISIT FREE OF OFFICIAL OBLIGATIONS.

4. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT BRATELLI'S PRIVATE VISIT WILL COINCIDE WITH KING OLAV V'S VISIT, BUT THEY WILL BE SEPARATE. THIS WILL PROBABLY BE ONE OF BRATTELI'S LAST ACTIONS AS PRIME MINISTER FOR, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT REACHED DURING THE LABOR PARTY NATIONAL CONVENTION IN APRIL, HE IS SLATED TO STEP DOWN IN FAVOR OF LABOR STORTING LEADER ODVAR NORDLI LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT. NO FIRM DATE, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN FIXED. BRATTELI IS EXPECTED TO RESUME HIS STORTING SEAT UPON LEAVING OFFICE. DURING HIS TENURE BRATTELI HAS BEEN A GOOD FRIEND AND SUPPORTER OF THE US AND THE ALLIANCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OSLO03203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750266-0238
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750890/aaaadbta.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <09 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI PLANS PRIVATE VISIT TO US
TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, NO, (BRATTELI, TRYGVE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006